

A NEW GENUS FOR *CYPHON ROBUSTUS* LECONTE

(Coleoptera: Helodidae)

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Since its original description in 1875, *Cyphon robustus* LeConte has been retained in the genus *Cyphon* Paykull. However, it is not a *Cyphon* and does not fit any genus recorded from the Nearctic region, nor any described genus known to me.

Sarabandus Leech, new genus

Form oblong-oval, facies of *Elodes* (i.e. of such species as *E. fuscipennis* Guérin and *E. inornatus* Lewis), and somewhat of *Microcara* and *Pseudomicrocara*.

Head nearly vertical in repose, hidden by pronotum in dorsal view; mandibles simple, very broad, narrowed and sharply pointed at apex, with a vague angulation near middle of inner margin, not toothed; labial palpi short, terminal segment glabrous, subcylindrical, a little longer than penultimate segment and arising from its apex; maxillary palpi moderately slender, terminal segment subcylindrical and a little longer than penultimate. *Pronotum* bisinuate basally, almost evenly semicircular anteriorly without indication of front angles, continuous margin of sides and front slightly reflexed. *Prosternum* narrow before front coxae, triangular between them basally, thence suddenly lower and blade-like, the short blade barely reaching mesosternum and hidden by contiguous apices of coxae. *Mesosternal process* narrow, reaching to about midpoint of middle coxae, not contacting metasternum; middle coxae normally contiguous apically; hind coxae contiguous. First segment of hind tarsi rounded above, not laterally margined; second segment not produced posteriorly, not hiding part of third.

Type of the genus: *Cyphon robustus* LeConte, 1875.

Sarabandus is separable from all described New World genera by the following combination of characters: hind femora much like those of front and middle legs, not greatly enlarged for leaping; mesosternal process short, narrow, not contacting metasternum, middle coxae thus able to be in contact in apical half; first segment of hind tarsi rounded above, not laterally margined. It resembles *Cyphon* in that the terminal segment of the labial palpus arises from the end of the penultimate segment, but differs in mesosternal characters, non-dentate mandibles, and shape of the pronotum. It is most closely allied to the Australian genus *Pseudomicrocara* Armstrong, 1953, but differs from this in its contiguous middle coxae, and shorter, pointed mesosternal process.

I am indebted to J. W. T. Armstrong for examples of *Pseudomicrocara* of which I have studied two species.